



# St. Andrew's C.E. Primary School Newsletter

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week was brilliant! The children really enjoyed being back into a routine and seeing their friends. It was great to see them so engaged in the classroom.

I hope our new families across the school have felt welcomed. I would like to thank all parents, (many of whom seem very happy with a return to school life) staff and especially the children for a fantastic start to the school year.



The whole school is working on the explore 'Africa' topic. Each year group has a focus on one particular area.

EYFS – Africa (an introduction)

Year 1 – Tanzania

Year 2 – Morocco

Year 3 – Kenya

Year 4 – West Africa (Ghana and Gambia)

Year 5 – South Africa

Year 6 – Nigeria and the Kingdom of Benin

Thank you for your support in maintaining standards with the school uniform. It is very much appreciated. A copy of the school uniform expectations is on our school website. If you do need clarification, please contact the school office. Could I also ask that all uniform is **labelled** to ensure the children do not lose anything?

In her role as Information technology leader in school, Mrs. Chapman, has achieved a Microsoft Innovator Educator Expert award from Microsoft. Let me assure you this involved a considerable amount of her own time invested to achieve the award, and will really benefit the school in the future. Well done Mrs Chapman!

As part of this journey, the whole team at St Andrew's have been working hard to enhance their computing skills in a variety of ways. They have been using Microsoft apps more frequently, offered stories through videos and held staff meetings remotely. We are now looking to the future and hoping that St Andrew's one day will become a Microsoft Showcase school. It's an exciting time ahead!



Annette Mashru - Headteacher

## Health and Safety

Please continue to social distance on the school site and we ask parents to leave the site as soon as they have collected their child. We also ask you keep to the parent path and not cut across playground or take a short cut by going against the path. If you have a query please contact the school office so staff are able to concentrate on dismissing the children safely.



## Data sheets

Week commencing

21.09.20, you should receive your child's data sheet. Please check we have the correct information and return to your child's class teacher with all updates. If there is anything which should be updated urgently before that date, please contact the school office.

## Dates

Dates for the year will be published on the school's website as soon as we are able to have events in school and go on visits. At the moment we are avoiding visitors coming in to the school and trips out, in line with government guidance. Y5 and Y6 field trips have been postponed until later in the year. Dates to be shared

once confirmed.

## Absence

Please be aware just as families in school with symptoms of coronavirus are following guidance, staff will need to do the same for themselves and their families. Some schools are already struggling with staff absence. If this arises in school we will manage the cover with support from the school team where possible.



## Books and Homework

From week commencing Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September children will be allocated a reading book, diary and regular homework. We ask that children bring their book bags to school on a daily basis from this date.

## Meet the Teacher

As a team we have been exploring the best way for you to meet your child's class teacher without breaching government guidelines, GDPR, etc. We have decided in the first instance to combine meeting the teacher with the settling in parents evening usually held at the end of term. These meetings will be in the form of one year group inviting all parents to a Microsoft Teams meeting after school. It would be useful if you could familiarise yourself with the app prior to the invite. Parents of children in foundation stage will receive a different meeting in line with EYFS feedback. Information on the dates and the format will follow next week. We will ensure they are held on different dates to accommodate siblings.

